

REMARKS

Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested to include the above-amended claims prior to the examination of the application. Claims 1-7 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended and new claims 8 and 9 have been added to more clearly define the subject matter of the invention. These amendments do not raise new issues.

The reference to hops has also been removed from amended claims 1 and 4 because although reduced isoalpha acids (RIAA) and isoalpha acids (IAA) could be derived from hops; the disclosure as filed clearly states, on page 8, paragraph 26, that such "**derivatives can include compounds obtained via a chemical reaction.**" New claims 8 and 9 have been added to include the reference to hops previously recited in claims 1 and 4. Applicants, therefore, aver that these claims as currently amended are fully supported by the subject matter already disclosed within the specification as filed and that no new matter has been added. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent if there are any questions.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-1133.

Respectfully submitted,

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